IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-34 (canceled).

35.   (previously added)   A data warehouse system, comprising:

a plurality of client devices, each for accepting a processing request from each user thereof;

a server provided with a database and used for searching said database according to access requests from said client devices;

a data collector associated with said client devices and provided with a storage device, for collecting data requested by users of said client devices and storing the data into said storage device as a replica which is partially replicating said database; and

a network for connecting said client devices to said server respectively via said data collector,

wherein said data collector comprises:

a replica creation control means for determining whether a new replica of said database is to be created and stored in said storage device, in response to a replica creation request from one of said client devices, by referring to a replica management table which holds at least a data range and a data updating interval of each replica stored in the storage device,

a query analysis unit for analyzing a query processing request from one of said client devices to select, as an object to be searched, a replica stored in said storage device or said database,

a query processing unit for searching said replica stored in said storage device according to a query analysis result from said query analysis unit, and

a communication control unit for selecting a procedure for accessing said server according to said query analysis result, and

wherein said server comprises:

a communication control unit for receiving said query analysis result transmitted from said data collector, and

a query processing unit for searching the database of said server.

36.   (currently amended)A data warehouse system, comprising:

a plurality of client devices, each for accepting processing a request from each user thereof

a server provided with a database and used for searching said database according to access requests from said client devices;

a plurality of data collectors, each being associated with at least one of said client devices and each being provided with a storage device, each for collecting data requested by a corresponding user and storing the data into said storage device as a replica partially replicating said database; and

a network for connecting said client devices to said server respectively via an associated data collector,

wherein each of said data collectors comprises:

a replica creation control means for determining whether a new replica of said database is to be created and stored in said storage device, in response to a replica creation request from a corresponding client device, by referring to a replica management table which holds replica descriptions at least including a data range and a data updating interval of each replica stored in the storage device, and

a query analysis unit for analyzing a query processing request from one of said client devices to select, as an object to be searched, a replica stored in said storage device according to a query analysis result form said query analysis unit,

a query processing unit for searching said replica stored in said storage device according to a query analysis result from said query analysis unit, and

a communication control unit for selecting a procedure for accessing said server according to said query analysis result, and

wherein said server comprises:

a communication control unit for receiving said query analysis result transmitted from said data collector, and

a query processing unit for searching the database of said server.

37.   (previously added)   A data warehouse system according to claim 36, wherein said replica management table further holds additional replica descriptions including a data range, a data updating interval and a location of each replica stored in storage device of cooperative data collectors, and

wherein said replica creation control means determines whether a new replica

C2 of said database is to be created and stored or not, by further referring to additional

replica descriptions.